

Attorney Docket. No. 032739M073

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/074,021

Examiner: Rodee, Christopher D

Filing Date: 02/14/2002

Group Art Unit: 1756

First Named Inventor: Azuma

For:

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants are enclosing an Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO-1449) which lists the documents cited in an Office Action (Decision of Refusal) issued on July 13, 2004 for counterpart Appln. No. JP 2001-54400.

A Notice of Allowance on the merits has issued for this application. However, the Applicants do not consider the cited documents to be material to the allowed claims. As such, Applicants do not object to action with respect to this Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). At minimum, it is respectfully requested that the Office Action and the cited documents be placed in the official file.

Respectfully submitted, SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:

Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263 1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 263-4300

Fax: (202) 263-4329

December 17, 2004

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